

Name: _____ Date: _____

Polynomial Factoring solution (version 602)

1. The quadratic formula says if $ax^2 + bx + c = 0$ then $x = \frac{-b \pm \sqrt{b^2 - 4ac}}{2a}$. Use the quadratic formula to solve the following equation.

$$x^2 - 4x + 15 = 0$$

Simplify your answer(s) as much as possible.

Solution

$$x = \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{(-4)^2 - 4(1)(15)}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{-(-4) \pm \sqrt{16 - 60}}{2(1)}$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-44}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm \sqrt{-4 \cdot 11}}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{4 \pm 2\sqrt{11}i}{2}$$

$$x = 2 \pm \sqrt{11}i$$

Notice that i is NOT under the square-root radical symbol!!

2. Express the product of $-2 + 7i$ and $6 + 8i$ in standard form $(a + bi)$.

Solution

$$\begin{aligned} & (-2 + 7i) \cdot (6 + 8i) \\ & -12 - 16i + 42i + 56i^2 \\ & -12 - 16i + 42i - 56 \\ & -12 - 56 - 16i + 42i \\ & -68 + 26i \end{aligned}$$

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3. Write function $f(x) = x^3 + 8x^2 - 3x - 90$ in factored form. I'll give you a hint: one factor is $(x - 3)$.

Solution

$$\begin{array}{c|cccc} & 1 & 8 & -3 & -90 \\ 3 & & 3 & 33 & 90 \\ \hline & 1 & 11 & 30 & 0 \end{array}$$

$$f(x) = (x - 3)(x^2 + 11x + 30)$$

$$f(x) = (x - 3)(x + 6)(x + 5)$$

4. Polynomial p is defined below in factored form.

$$p(x) = -(x + 6)^2 \cdot (x + 2) \cdot (x - 1) \cdot (x - 4)^2$$

Sketch a graph of polynomial $y = p(x)$.

